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NWT Labour Force Activity
- February 2014 -

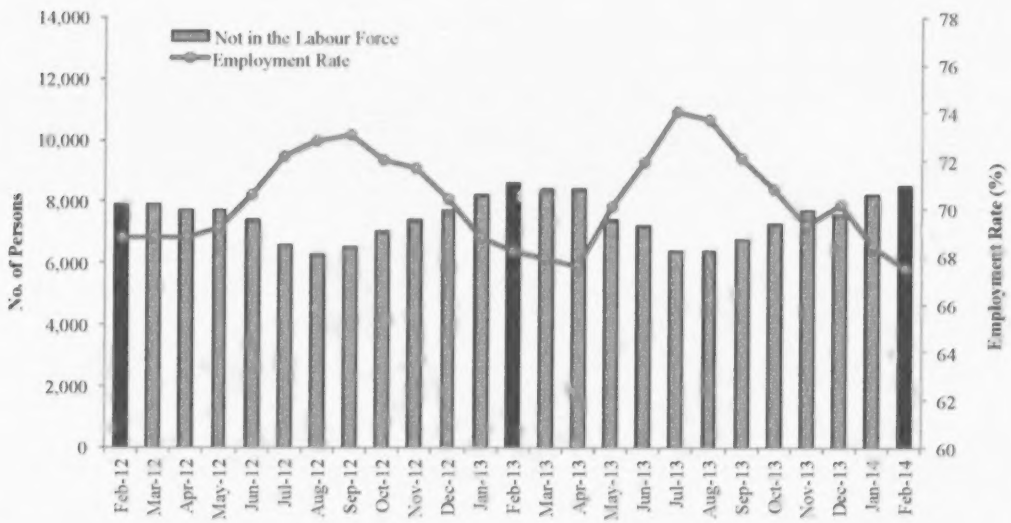
In February 2014, Statistics Canada estimates that 21,600 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories representing an employment rate of 67.5% (Table 1). Nationally, Canada's employment rate stood at 60.8%.

Compared to the previous month, the NWT employment rate decreased by 0.9 percentage points, translating into 300 fewer employed persons. This employment rate is the lowest for February since 2010, and is the second consecutive drop since December 2013.

Table 1 Monthly Highlights
Northwest Territories, February 2014

	Feb-14	Jan-14	Feb-13
Population	32,000	32,000	32,100
Labour Force	23,400	23,800	23,500
Employed	21,600	21,900	21,900
Unemployed	1,900	1,900	1,600
Not in Labour Force	8,500	8,200	8,600
Participation (%)	73.1	74.4	73.2
Employment (%)	67.5	68.4	68.2
Unemployment (%)	8.1	8.0	6.8

Figure 1 Employment Rates
Northwest Territories, 2012-2014



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All key characteristics experienced a decrease or status quo, except the youth (15-24 years) and communities outside Yellowknife, which showed slight increases. Compared to the last month, the number of employed persons in Yellowknife decreased by 500, lowering the employment rate to 76.6%. Approximately 400 fewer persons 25 years & older were employed in February. (Table 2)

Table 2 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	Feb-14		Jan-14		Dec-13	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)
Northwest Territories	21,600	67.5	21,900	68.4	22,400	70.2
15-24 Yrs.	3,000	46.2	2,900	44.6	3,100	47.7
25 Yrs. & Over	18,600	72.9	19,000	74.5	19,200	75.3
Males	11,500	69.3	11,600	69.9	11,800	71.1
Females	10,100	65.6	10,300	66.9	10,600	69.3
Aboriginal	7,600	52.4	7,800	53.4	8,100	54.7
Non-Aboriginal	14,000	80.5	14,000	80.9	14,300	83.1
Yellowknife	11,800	76.6	12,300	79.4	12,700	81.9
Other	9,800	59.0	9,600	58.2	9,600	58.5

Between January and February 2014, 300 fewer people were employed, and all of the decrease was full-time employees. Over the last year, 300 fewer people were employed, largely due to a shift away from public employment into private employment and self-employment. Between February 2014 and February 2013, public employment decreased by 1,300 people, whereas self-employment increased by 800. (Table 3)

Table 3 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, February 2014***

				Jan-14 to Feb-14	Feb-13 to Feb-14
	Feb-14	Jan-14	Feb-13	Change (persons)	
Total Employment	21,600	21,900	21,900	(300)	(300)
Full-time	19,300	19,600	19,700	(300)	(400)
Part-time	2,300	2,300	2,200	-	100
Employees	19,500	20,200	20,600	(700)	(1,100)
Public	8,800	9,200	10,100	(400)	(1,300)
Private	10,700	10,900	10,600	(200)	100
Self-employment	2,100	1,700	1,300	400	800
Goods Producing	3,800	3,800	3,900	-	(100)
Service Producing	17,800	18,100	18,000	(300)	(200)

Table 4 presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Feb-14	32,000	23,400	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.1	8.1	67.5
Jan-14	32,000	23,800	21,900	1,900	8,200	74.4	8.0	68.4
Dec-13	31,900	24,400	22,400	2,000	7,600	76.5	8.2	70.2
Nov-13	31,900	24,200	22,100	2,100	7,700	75.9	8.7	69.3
Oct-13	31,900	24,600	22,600	2,000	7,300	77.1	8.1	70.8
Sep-13	31,900	25,100	23,000	2,100	6,800	78.7	8.4	72.1
Aug-13	31,900	25,500	23,500	2,000	6,400	79.9	7.8	73.7
Jul-13	31,900	25,500	23,600	1,900	6,400	79.9	7.5	74.0
Jun-13	32,000	24,800	23,000	1,800	7,200	77.5	7.3	71.9
May-13	32,100	24,700	22,500	2,200	7,400	76.9	8.9	70.1
Apr-13	32,100	23,700	21,700	2,000	8,400	73.8	8.4	67.6
Mar-13	32,100	23,700	21,800	1,900	8,400	73.8	8.0	67.9
Previous Years:								
Feb-13	32,100	23,500	21,900	1,600	8,600	73.2	6.8	68.2
Feb-12	32,100	24,200	22,100	2,100	7,900	75.4	8.7	68.8
Feb-11	32,200	23,800	22,000	1,800	8,300	73.9	7.6	68.3
Feb-10	32,200	22,400	21,000	1,400	9,800	69.6	6.3	65.2
Feb-09	32,100	22,700	22,000	700	9,400	70.7	3.1	68.5
Feb-08	32,000	24,100	22,600	1,500	7,900	75.3	6.2	70.6
Feb-07	31,500	24,600	23,600	1,000	6,900	78.1	4.1	74.9
Feb-06	31,200	24,000	22,800	1,200	7,200	76.9	5.0	73.1
Feb-05	31,200	24,300	22,700	1,600	6,900	77.9	6.6	72.8
Feb-04	30,800	22,800	21,500	1,300	8,000	74.0	5.7	69.8

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: April 4, 2014